

TOWN OF WILTON
SELECTMEN'S MINUTES

Date: March 14, 2016
Time: 6:30 P.M.
Place: Town Office
Present: Chairman Richard E. Swanson, Selectmen William F. Condra and Kermit R. Williams.
Recording Secretary Pamela Atwood.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Chairman Swanson. The first order of business is to welcome newly elected Selectman Daniel E. Donovan, III to the Board. Dan was sworn into office by Jane Farrell.

The members of the Board thanked Rick Swanson for his service. Dan Donovan was welcomed to the Board.

Motion: Selectman Condra nominated Kermit Williams to be Select Board Chairman for the ensuing year. Selectman Donovan seconded the motion. A unanimous vote followed. Motion carried. Kermit Williams is the newly elected Chairman of the Wilton Board of Selectmen for 2016.

Public Comment: Jennifer Beck asked to make comments regarding the Pipeline. She stated that some area towns are putting funds together and she has heard that the Attorney General's office is getting involved. She submitted three articles for the Board's consideration. Chairman Williams spoke on the topic saying that we don't have legal standing to take Kinder Morgan to Court as it is not going through Wilton. Rick Swanson stated that Wilton is registered as an Intervener. Chairman Williams said that being an Intervener means anything we say has to go to all other Interveners.

Next Jennifer state that she would like to engage with the Town's attorney regarding a piece of property she wants to donate to the Town of Wilton. She asked that the Selectmen discuss and consider her proposal and let her know what the procedure is.

Jackie Kahle asked to speak next. She submitted a formal copy of the Town Administrator job description to the Selectmen. She stated that the Study Committee feels the position should be a full time position. There would be a positive impact for someone to be there full time. Tom Schultz stated that the Study Committee was present tonight to reinforce the position of Town Administrator and he hopes that the Board of Selectmen accept this mandate from the Town. He said that it would bring great value to the T Town.

Selectman Donovan spoke next on the position stating that he feels it would be disingenuous to make it a part-time position. He stated that he was ambivalent about the creation of the position but that he would not have the audacity to undercut it.

Chairman Williams has been looking at mechanisms going forward stating that our insurance company, Primex, is available to help hire a Town Administrator. They can facilitate on-line physiological tests, etc. His recommendation is that we make use of Primex as a resource.

Andre Garron from UNH, with the Business Retention and Expansion Program was next on the agenda. The Town decided to move forward with the program and so he is here to work on the next steps. He gave his presentation. He said that we are fortunate to have an actual downtown, because some communities do not have a downtown. He stressed that this program is about businesses throughout our community. Step 1 is organization of the group. He will need 5-10 task force members. These projects usually last about a year. There will be action items at the conclusion of the program. The date of next meeting was discussed next. Andre said that the volunteers for this project would only need to give 6 hours of their time and two of those are for training. Chairman Williams noted that the next step would be to identify our leadership team and pick a date for the meeting. The group thanked Andre.

The next appointment was for Joanne Tramontozzi, DRA Real Estate Appraiser and Assessor Todd Haywood to discuss the Statistical Update contract. Joanne thanked the Board for having her. Joanne spoke about Todd's contract and the timeline to perform the Statistical Update for Wilton. Todd noted that it was the same scope of work that he performed in 2011. Todd told the Board how he worked this update: He measures and lists all the sale properties for the last three years and he tries to get internal inspections of the properties; these become the benchmark properties. He looks at all properties and makes any adjustments as necessary. This is his third time doing the Town of Wilton so he doesn't anticipate many changes. The Town is responsible for doing the data entry on the 1900 parcels. He will have hearings for anyone interested. He will assign preliminary notice of values. When the Board accepts the values he will update his USPAP manual, then send the new values to the State in the form of an MS-1 report.

There was further discussion of the timeline for the Statistical Update. Todd said that the preliminary values will be given to the Selectmen in mid-June, the hearings will be done by September 15th, and so the data input should be done by August 15th or sooner if possible. The Board thanked Joanne for her time.

Chairman Williams asked Todd if he could stay to answer questions about the passage of the Solar Exemption. Todd explained that it is a net-zero exemption. He adds it in and then takes it out. The amount is based on the number of kilowatts generated. This keeps it neater he explained. People must file for the exemption by April 15th to qualify. It's a local option so it affects our apportionment to the State. Selectman Condra asked if the exemption is on the basis of the cost and installation of the equipment. Todd answered that it has a net-zero affect. Todd suggested that Building Inspector John Shepardson get the generation factor when people install the systems.

Audience member Tracy Ewing asked if the rest of the population are subsidizing them. The more you assess them the more impact it has on the rest of the Town. This year will be the first year we are reporting the exemption. Selectman Donovan doesn't expect there to be a lot of them.

Next on the agenda was Police Chief Hautanen to ask the Board for permission to purchase the SUV that was voted in at the Town Meeting. He has contracted with MacMulkin Chevrolet for a Chevy Tahoe based on his quote.

Motion: Selectman Donovan made a motion to authorize Chief Hautanen to make the purchase of the SUV as authorized at Town Meeting. Selectman Condra seconded the motion which was followed by a unanimous vote in favor. Motion carries.

Next, the Chief told the Selectmen that he has someone who has offered to donate a granite sign and posts for the Police Station. Chairman Williams asked about insurance. Brent will check with the contractor about liabilities. Brent stated that the original Police Station plans included wiring for a sign. The Selectmen supported the Chief regarding the donated sign offer.

Tax Collector Jane Farrell was next on the agenda to discuss abatements. Jane explained the first abatement which was for a trailer on Ring Road that no longer existed.

Motion: Selectman Condra made a motion to abate the amount as requested by Jane. Selectman Donovan seconded. The motion, followed by a unanimous vote. Motion carries.

The next abatement request was for the property owned by Area Agency, which is a group home; to exempt the whole tax.

Motion: Selectman Condra moves to abate the amount requested by Jane for this property. Selectman Donovan seconded the motion, followed by a unanimous vote. Motion carries.

The next abatement request was for Pine Hill Waldorf School. It was for the Daycare building which Assessor Todd Haywood originally felt should not be tax exempt. The Selectmen reviewed it back in the spring and going forward they should discuss how to properly code it.

Administrative Assistant Pam Atwood showed the Selectmen the motion made at a previous meeting which stated that the abatement was for one year. The Selectmen agreed that it seemed like they were granted an abatement for 2015 and they would need to apply for 2016 and do so going forward each year. And, they must file in a timely manner.

Motion: Selectman Donovan moves to approve the 2015 abatement in the amount of \$4,199.00. Selectman Condra seconded the motion, followed by a unanimous vote. Motion carries.

Jane had one more abatement request for lot D-074, which the Selectmen approved with a motion...

Selectman Donovan informed the Selectmen that he could not hold the position of Trustee of Trust Funds and Selectman at the same time so he has submitted his resignation as Trustee. Betsy Castro has asked the Selectmen if they will appoint David Miller who has agreed to accept the position

Motion: Selectman Donovan moved to appoint David Miller as Trustee of the Trust Funds. Selectman Condra seconds. A unanimous vote followed. Motion carries.

Regarding: Authorizing the provisions of the Solar Exemption.

Motion: Selectman Condra moves to adopt the provisions of the Solar Exemption. Chairman Williams seconds. Unanimous vote. Motion carries.

Old/New Business:

Warrant Article action items: Put a plan together for the north side of the building. We need a scope of work. John Shepardson would be the first person to put together a draft. Selectman Donovan will talk to Alison Meltzer also.

Chairman Williams stated that the cherry table Dan Donovan made as a fundraiser for the Ambulance Service will be awarded next week.

Town Administrator Warrant Article: Chairman Williams will talk to PrimeX if the Selectmen approve the use of their assistance for recruiting. Selectman Donovan asked if there should be a search committee. Chairman Williams thinks yes, stating that Jackie K. was a great find for the Town Administrator Study Committee. The Board approved that Chairman Williams could work with PrimeX. Selectman Donovan asked where we are going to put this person. A couple of suggestions were discussed and then Chairman Williams said temporarily they could work out of the Selectmen's office.

Chairman Williams talked about the Vacant Spaces Tour slated for March 26th. The asked Pam to tell Chuck Crawford about the event.

Jane gave the abatement request for Len Peterson when they sold their land they had a small piece of land in another name, which Jane needs the Boards signatures on
Selectman Condra moved to abate the bill which would be added on to the new owner's bill. Selectman Donovan seconds. Unanimous vote. Motion carries.

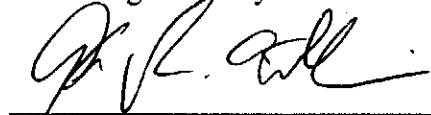
Chairman Williams on Economic development – The Catholic Church has accepted an offer for purchase by a nonprofit incubator to share space with other non profits like coffee houses, food pantry possibly, and other things that would fit in with her mission.

Chairman Williams spoke to NRPC regarding their plan for part time GIS assistance for the Town of Milford. Milford would contract with NRPC for GIS work and they have offered for Wilton to piggy-back with them. This is something we have talked about for years. There is value for a coordinated GIS effort. Chairman Williams will ask for more information if Selectman Donovan and Selectman Condra are interested. The Water Commission is logging locations for their infrastructure. Having one multi layer map with all town information would be valuable. Chairman Williams will write the letter for the Recycling stickers tonight so Pam can get the letters out ASAP.

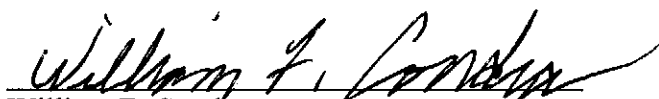
A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 P.M. by Chairman Williams, seconded by Selectman Donovan, followed by a vote with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted;

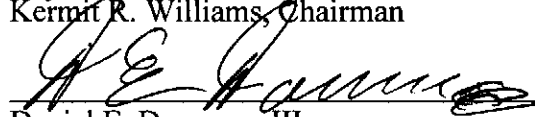
Pamela L. Atwood,
Recording Secretary



Kermit R. Williams, Chairman



William F. Condra



Daniel E. Donovan, III

3-28-16

Date Signed